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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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                    FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON
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     UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
                     Plaintiff,
4
                                       ) No. 05-60008-2-HO
5
                                        ) March 1, 2011
       v.
     PIROUZ SEDAGHATY, et al.,
6
                                       ) Eugene, Oregon
7
                     Defendants.
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                    TRANSCRIPT OF ORAL ARGUMENT
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              BEFORE THE HONORABLE MICHAEL R. HOGAN
                UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
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                     Deborah Wilhelm, CSR, RPR
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19	ALSO PRESENT:	Colleen Anderson David Carroll
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(Tuesday, March 1, 2011; 1:58 p.m.)

PROCEEDINGS

THE CLERK: This is the time set for Case 05-60008, United States of America versus Pirouz Sedaghaty, time set for oral argument on motion for discovery Number 520.

THE COURT: Counsel, first, I want to apologize for being late. I had a little additional preparation I wanted to do to make sure I was really ready for you, so I took the freedom to do it. I hope you understand.

All right. I'm familiar with the materials you have. I've read them all. And happy to hear any comments you wish to make at this time.

Let me just also add that I've read not only the discovery materials but there have been -- there is a motion for new trial and dismissal and so on, and I've read all that material also.

MR. WAX: Well, Judge, in very brief form, I think that what we're dealing with here is most unusual. I think that in our most recent pleading, we pointed out that with respect to some of the law that is applicable, you do find that the parties are in agreement as to some of what is applicable. And even under a standard that says in a rare case only should the court grant discovery, we think this is a rare case.

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The record includes the government's admission
that it withheld material to which Mr. Sedaghaty was
entitled, and that is a relatively unique factor. I
don't think that we found that circumstance in -- I
don't want to say in any cases, certainly, it is far
outside the norm.
         THE COURT: Let me make sure I understood that.
When we had the motion on the release hearing, I tried
to be precise on this point because one of the things
that your pal here said was of concern to me, and it
sounded like he was saying that the prosecutors knew
that certain reports hadn't been turned over. And
that's why I came back at it a few times. But I may
have been imprecise in the words I used. I haven't
looked back at the transcript. And, frankly, I thought
it was a serious statement to say that the prosecutors
here knew that there was exculpatory material that they
hadn't turned over. And is there something in this
record that would show that?
        MR. MATASAR: Your Honor, I have read the
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transcript and the question --

THE COURT: Sure.

MR. MATASAR: -- you asked me was -- I think there was a statement in our papers, I don't have them right here, our supplement --

THE COURT: I don't either, and it was occasioned by the statement in the papers.

MR. MATASAR: The statement said something like the prosecutors were aware that Richard Cabral was paid cash. And I think you asked me how did I know that, and I explained that. So when you are saying today a slightly different question, were the -- which one way of looking at it is, did the prosecutors intentionally -- were they aware of something and then decide not to hand it to you. That's a different question than the question you had -- that I had stated in the pleadings and that I was responding to. I just want to make that clear.

THE COURT: Thank you for the clarification. I want to make sure I understood your position on that.

That's why I asked the questions before.

MR. WAX: Your Honor, what the declarations that were filed on November -- or, excuse me, February 18 recite is that in January and March of 2009, the trial team, the two case agents and the two trial prosecutors, met and reviewed material, and they discussed what would be disclosed.

What I believe is said in those declarations is that there can be no question but that they were aware that Richard Cabral had been paid. There is no question

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    that the case agents knew that Barbara Cabral had been
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    present. There is no --
             THE COURT: On the '05 payment?
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             MR. WAX: Correct. And a decision about
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    discovery on what would be turned over was made.
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             We were not provided the reports that included
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    the Richard Cabral payments or the report or notes that
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    said that Barbara Cabral was present on one occasion.
             Now, in terms of the question that you just
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    asked a moment ago, those are the facts that the
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    government has presented to date with respect to those
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    meetings. What we believe is required at this point is
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    further exploration through the -- what the materials
    we've requested, the notes, the memos, the e-mails,
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    et cetera, the communications among those four people
    and others in the FBI and others in the United States
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    Attorney's Office.
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             THE COURT: I want to make sure that we're very
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    clear about this, because I have --
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             MR. WAX: Yes.
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             THE COURT: -- some lawyers in front of me
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    we've spent our whole careers together, all of us, and
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    everyone here has my highest respect for their
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    integrity, and I hope that I have the same in return.
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    But if there really is an allegation or a question about
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    assistant attorneys not turning over Brady material that
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    they knew about, it wasn't turned over, then that can be
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    a different question than whether some things were found
    later.
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             MR. WAX: Your Honor, there is no question that
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    in the declarations Agent Carroll and Mr. Gorder both
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    describe the meetings that they had with Barbara Cabral,
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    and the descriptions include conversation between the
    two of them about Cabral's -- was Barbara Cabral paid?
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    Gorder to Carroll.
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             Carroll, no. I am considering, thinking of
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    paying her.
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             Gorder, don't pay anything until after the
    trial.
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             Now, given the fact that the declarations state
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    that a year, a year and a half earlier, there were
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    discussions about the payments to Richard and, from
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    Agent Carroll, the source files, which as we understand
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    it should include the detail of the payment, were
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    present in Medford when the four of them met for
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    multiple days in January and March --
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             THE COURT: I haven't been precise enough.
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    Please turn to paragraph 15 of Mr. Gorder's declaration.
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             MR. WAX: I have it in front of me.
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             THE COURT: Where he describes the week of
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1 December 27th, 2010. 2 MR. WAX: Yes. 3 THE COURT: And says down eight or nine lines, I did come across handwritten notes for September 28, 4 2004, interview by the FBI. I made further inquiries, 5 et cetera. Do you have any indication that Mr. Gorder 6 7 or anyone else -- any other lawyer for the government 8 knew that notes such as that were not made available to you? 9 10 MR. WAX: The only information we have, Your 11 Honor, is the statement by Agent Carroll that the source 12 files were present in Medford on the days in January and 13 March of '09. We have the record of the discovery that 14 the government provided to us. And that record, of 15 course, shows that we were not provided information 16 about the payments and other information. 17 It seems to me that there is some inconsistency between Agent Carroll's declaration that the source 18 19 files were present and Mr. Gorder's declaration. 20 THE COURT: With all respect, I don't think you 21 are answering my question. Do you have any information 22 that a member of the bar -- I take that back. Some FBI 23 agents are lawyers. That the Assistant U.S. Attorney 24 knew that there were these handwritten notes that 25 Mr. Gorder says that he found during the week of

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    December 27th, any indication that they knew those were
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    available and didn't turn them over?
             MR. WAX: Could I have a moment, please?
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             THE COURT: Of course.
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             (Discussion held off the record between Mr. Wax
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    and Mr. Matasar.)
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             MR. WAX: Your Honor, the only information that
    we have is the information that is currently before you.
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             THE COURT: Go ahead with the rest of your
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    argument.
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             MR. WAX: In terms of the, you know, Brady
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    issue, what the agent knows the prosecutor is deemed to
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    know.
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             THE COURT: I realize where the buck stops, I
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    get that.
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             MR. WAX: And with respect to that particular
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    statement, I put it into the context of what seems to me
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    to be the inconsistency between what appears in the
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    different declarations about what was present and/or
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    what was reviewed. And if there is a question of
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    someone forgetting something, that's one thing. If
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    there is a question of someone not asking the question,
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    that is something else. And I think that those are the
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    types of issues that the court needs to resolve and that
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    the court can only resolve after having the opportunity
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to look at all of the communications that are, we believe, extant. Mr. Gorder has told you in his declaration a list of things that he reviewed prior to preparing. We don't have similar lists from the other declarants, but I think it's reasonable to assume that they reviewed similar materials.

And in a case of this nature, with the amount of time and energy that went into it, I think that it is reasonable for us all to assume that each of the participants was making the types of notes and logs that some have described as having reviewed and that others, we have evidence of some of them before us.

We recognize, Judge, that these are not -these are unpleasant matters. Nobody wants to be making
an allegation or suggesting that an area needs to be
inquired into that involves the integrity of people with
whom we work all the time. Regrettably what we have in
front of us starting with the admission that something
was not turned over, and then looking at what has been
provided, as we see it, it raises further questions that
require inquiry, and there is some statements that are
just not reconcilable without looking at additional
material.

And what we're seeking is the opportunity to look at that material, to test these recollections, to

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inquire into the inconsistencies, armed with the necessary material, and to do it through an evidentiary hearing after we've had that stuff provided.

about that. The only other point that I think might be worth emphasizing is that in terms of the legal standards, what it is that the court is dealing with, the questions before you are entirely distinct from the types of questions that arise in the normal pretrial discovery phase of the case. The questions that must be answered now are which members of the prosecution team knew what when and said what to whom when? Those questions involve a different paradigm, if you will, than the types of issues that are discussed in the traditional discovery cases.

And the government's pleading approaches this as a discovery matter in the context of the normal pretrial discovery process or in a setting in which the defense has no basis on which to be suggesting that any constitutional rights have been intruded upon. We have that here. We have the first leg in the government's admission stuff wasn't turned over. We have the second leg in what it is that they have now provided in these declarations. And what we're seeking is to complete that picture.

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And Rule 16(a)(2), the work product privilege, we think the Supreme Court hit it head-on in the Nobles case when it said once you put the integrity of your office, if you will, on the line, and the integrity of your actions on the line, you cannot say that work product protects the very documents that are needed to determine precisely what the truth is.

And the government's pleadings, we do not believe, recognize that we are dealing with that very different type of situation.

THE COURT: Thank you. Ms. Zusman.

MS. ZUSMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. I think at the outset I'd kind of like to -- I appreciate that the court has read all of our pleadings, and so I'm not going to repeat any of that. I think it's helpful to kind of get a frame of reference as to what we're talking about here with the defense's discovery request, and the first is that they haven't said any of their discovery requests relate to their new trial motion.

New trial stands or falls on really your determination about whether or not that Barbara Cabral was a key or a star witness, and whether or not any of the information we provided posttrial about the payments to her deceased husband Richard or the comments that Agent Carroll made to her before trial, whether any of that matters.

That's something that you can decide right now with what you have before you.

The discovery request instead relates to the defendant's attempt to accuse the trial team of outrageous or flagrant government misconduct. And what they want us to do is open up our files, provide them with our trial strategies and our work product at a time when we have this new trial motion pending, and show them everything we have. Not appropriate. And they haven't met the threshold that would entitle them to that kind of extraordinary relief.

Couple of points there. The inconsistencies that Mr. Wax has noted between the declarations, I am probably to blame for those. And that's because I told each of these four individuals not to talk to each other when they prepared those declarations. My instructions to them were to prepare their declarations based on their own memory and whatever material that they had would help refresh their memories, so that what they were providing you was something helpful and not just a bunch of "I don't know," "I don't remember," because I was asking them to go back several years in a very -- in a case that involved a lot of discovery, thousands of pages, I wanted them to tell you what they did in terms of their good-faith efforts to comply fully with the

rules that apply to discovery, from the Criminal Rules of Procedure, from the due process clause, and from this court's orders, and they did precisely that. They didn't confer amongst each other, they didn't collude.

I think it's entirely reasonable to expect that the declarations that they provided are going to differ in what they remember and what they may have emphasized.

Now, when Mr. Wax talks about an inconsistency about what took place in Medford when they were reviewing the files and they are doing this scrub in order to make sure that they turn everything over, and Mr. Gorder outlined for you all of the exculpatory material that they culled and they produced to the defense. So the notion that somehow we're going to hold back on the payments made to Richard Cabral years after he died in order to gain some sort of tactical advantage simply doesn't make sense.

But leaving that aside, if we go back to
this -- when we're doing the March 2009 review, Agent
Carroll brought the information about Richard Cabral,
and both Mr. Cardani and Mr. Gorder what they tell you
with their declarations is, look, it may have been
there, I don't remember. My only memory was Richard
Cabral was dead in 2009, so we knew we weren't going to
be calling him as a witness.

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Now, Mr. Wax has told you that this is a rare case, one in which you should order this extraordinary discovery and have us clear out our files and show you all of our trial strategies and show it to the defense, but why is it a rare case? He tells you it's a rare case because of our declarations, because we have candidly come forward and admitted, not a Brady violation, as they've said in their reply, we have admitted that there was material about one of our witnesses that should have been disclosed, but disclosure is a far cry from admissibility, and an even further cry from a Brady violation. And we have never conceded a Brady violation.

They have also told you that we waived our privilege under Rule 16(a)(2) by filing those declarations. And they cite you to the Supreme Court's decision in Nobles. False. Absolutely false.

Prior to filing those declarations, we asserted our privilege under Rule 16(a)(2) in the response that we filed to their discovery requests.

And, second, the Ninth Circuit in Fort tells you that Nobles was not a 16(a)(2) case. It involved the work product privilege. And 16(a)(2) is broader than that.

So for all of these reasons, Your Honor, there

is no basis for you to -- there is -- I would suggest there is no basis to grant the defendant's request for this extraordinary discovery that they have asked for.

Now, one final point, they have raised a claim in their reply brief that Agent Carroll violated FBI policy in making the payments to Richard Cabral. We think that's irrelevant, but even if it was, they submitted to you just a couple of hours ago this declaration of James Wedick, a former FBI agent. He retired in April of 2004. Now, that was just about the time that the policy that was in place when Agent Carroll first made the payment in July of 2004 came into effect. So agent -- former Agent Wedick wasn't around when the policy was in place that applied to Agent Carroll's actions.

If this court has any questions or any concerns at all about what that policy was, because Agent Wedick does not address it, I have it for you here in court, and I can make it available to you in camera. I will tell you I have reviewed it, and nothing in the policy that applied to Agent Carroll was violated. I will also tell you it is sensitive, it is not public material.

And for all of these reasons, the defendant's discovery motion should be denied. And we should simply move on to this court's consideration of the motion for

1 new trial. 2 THE COURT: Thank you. MR. WAX: A couple of points, Your Honor. 3 First, Ms. Zusman is, in her argument, significantly 4 overstating our discovery request. We are not asking 5 the government to open its files. We are not asking the 6 7 government to open its files and discuss trial strategy 8 with us, or to look into why and how they prepared this case. 9 10 Our discovery requests are very narrowly 11 tailored to the issues before this court. All that we 12 are seeking are the copies of the relevant guidelines 13 from the Department of Justice and the FBI. We have access to some that are in the public record. We do not 14 15 have access to them all. The ones that are available to 16 us say to us that if they were applicable, and one I think is from 2001, which would be applicable, perhaps, 17 18 and the other from 2006, that there -- they were not 19 complied with. 20 Depending on what those guidelines say, it is a -- one of two things appears to be the case if either 21 22

Depending on what those guidelines say, it is a -- one of two things appears to be the case if either of the guidelines that we have access to are applicable. Either the FBI did not comply with the guidelines, and there is a potential for an outrageous conduct dismissal based on that, or if they did comply with the

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    quidelines, then somebody in the United States
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    Attorney's Office was in a position where he or she
    would have to have signed off on the payments that were
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    made to Cabral. We seek that type of information.
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             We seek information with respect to the Cabrals
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    and the communications about the Cabrals and the
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    payments to the Cabrals. Our discovery requests go no
    further than that.
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             THE COURT: Also A.U.S.A. communication about
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    those with them, right?
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             MR. WAX: Excuse me?
             THE COURT: Also AUSA communication about those
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    and with those witnesses.
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             MR. WAX: Yes, Your Honor, yes. Our requests
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    are related solely to the issue that we see that is
    before the court. Did Mr. Cardani, did Mr. Carroll, did
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    Mr. Gorder, did Ms. Anderson, communicate with each
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    other or take notes at the time of the payments?
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             Is there an e-mail from Dave Carroll to Chris
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    Cardani in 2005 discussing this?
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             And if that type of e-mail exists, you need to
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    see that to know whether or not the government's
    attorneys knew certain things that their declarations
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    say they did not. Perhaps they have forgotten. But
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    that's different than not having known. And there would
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be other inquiries that would need to be made.

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If there is a log note in Mr. Cardani's file from 2006 about communication with Agent Carroll, about Richard or Barbara Cabral, it seems to me you need to see that.

That's the only type of information we're requesting.

With respect to the 302s, you have a position taken by the agents that we respectfully submit is on its face something that must be questioned further. They tell you that the version of the FBI 302 of the August 17, 2007, interview of Richard Cabral is a draft. Yet when you look at the 302 that was provided earlier, the 302 that was provided later, and the handwritten notes that are provided later but were apparently made contemporaneously, you see that both 302 reports contain statements not present in the other.

It is difficult for us to understand why a statement that is in what is called the draft, the later discovered report, Summer Rife came from Alaska, which is in the handwritten notes, if that's a draft, why is it removed from the final version of the report?

The handwritten notes have the numbers -- dollar values 200 and 400, that's the handwritten notes. That's what is in what is called the draft. Yet the

final version has 1 and 200. So on its face, calling one a draft and calling the latter discovered one a draft, just is not consistent with the other facts that are before you.

Agent Carroll says in his declaration, he affirmatively states, I didn't save that electronically. Your Honor, he referred at one point to a telephone log. He looked at it for an October 4 conversation, says I have a telephone log, I know this conversation with Barbara Cabral took place on October 4. If he has a telephone log, why is he not able to tell us when the other conversation that he says he had with Barbara Cabral took place with similar precision? Does he have a log that tells him that he forgot to hit "save electronically"?

We all know from this case that computers contain a lot of information. And the FBI computer may well provide clarity to what, on its face, is inconsistent in what has been said. That's the type of thing we're seeking, not trial strategy, not the inner workings of the government in terms of putting this case together, only on this subject matter.

THE COURT: Anything further?

MR. MATASAR: Your Honor, let me address the Fort case. Counsel says it's not a 16(a)(2) case. This

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is about waiver. She says it's not a 16(a)(2) case.
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said that we're keeping our privilege, therefore, it's
inapplicable. But in our view, Your Honor, Fort is a
logical and clear way to resolve this problem of waiver.
         The court said, as she indicates, Rule 16(a)(2)
is not strictly speaking a work product privilege, but
the court says, therefore, we look for guidance to the
general principles of waiver. And that's all we're
saying, the general principles of waiver. They looked
at the phone logs, they looked at their files, they
looked maybe at their e-mails, I can't recall exactly
what they said they looked at, they relied on all of
that information to create -- and they talk all about
their internal team meetings, they gave us information
about all of those internal team meetings. In our view,
if you look at the general principles of waiver, that's
a waiver. That was our point.
         THE COURT: Go ahead if you have something.
         MS. ZUSMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. Very, very
briefly. The work product privilege that we have
asserted as to the documents that the lawyers, in
particular, relied upon in preparing their declarations,
Mr. Gorder, in fact, relied upon many of the trial
strategy notes that he had in order to help him remember
the sequence of events. So if they want to look at
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everything that Mr. Gorder relied upon to prepare his declaration, that is going to get us into what's critical trial strategy.

The other thing I would offer to the court is that if you are concerned about anything that they have raised here today, I personally have been through every single scrap of paper that Agent Carroll, Assistant U.S. Attorney Cardani and Assistant U.S. Attorney Gorder had that they used to help them remember the sequence of events in order to draft their declarations. I can make it available to the court to review in camera.

I can tell you, though, that in reviewing all of the documents that they have, and just to quickly answer the suggestion about Agent Carroll's phone log, he had a few notes on a notepad of a few phone calls. It was never intended to be a complete summary of every single phone call he had made, and that's why he attempted to determine when that call took place with Barbara Cabral, but he couldn't, he couldn't be more specific, I've got the log, I've got the notes. I can tell you that in reviewing all of this material, all of it is entirely consistent with what each of these individuals has said in their declarations. But if there is any doubt at all in the court's mind, it's here, and I can make it available to the court.

I don't think it should be given to the defense. They haven't made a showing that there is any outrageousness, any bad faith on the part of this trial team.

THE COURT: Anything further?

The record is important here, so I'm going to do this in writing. I think it's wise for me to go ahead and review the material and the FBI policy that you have in camera. And so I'll require that.

With regard to when I would hope to have an order out, because I have to go to -- right now I'm scheduled to be in San Diego on Thursday and New York on Friday through Tuesday, and so while I have some pretty strong thoughts about how this may happen, depending on what I see, maybe there is some other questions, I'm going to try to get something out right away on this, but right away is not going to be tomorrow.

And what I would like to do is address scheduling a little bit, though. I don't want this to drag on forever, either we're going to have another trial or we're not, and we need to get that addressed.

So I want you to assume for a minute, and if it comes out differently, when I've reviewed other materials, that's fine, assume I deny the motion for discovery, when are you ready to argue the motion to

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    dismiss and for new trial?
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             MR. MATASAR: Your Honor, we'd like to be able
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    to submit our reply to the government's response, so I
    think that would be the next date. Probably -- I said a
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    time at lunch that was too soon, so I want to consult
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    here to make sure we can ask for the right time.
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             (Discussion held off the record between Mr. Wax
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    and Mr. Matasar.)
             MR. MATASAR: How about, Your Honor, just two
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    weeks after your order? Whenever you issue the order,
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    we'll have our reply within two weeks, because that will
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    tell us whether we're getting discovery or not, and then
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    we'll figure out how to deal with it.
             THE COURT: Well, I'm going to make it ten
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    days.
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             MR. MATASAR: Fine.
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             THE COURT: And I'll give the government a week
    to respond, and we'll set the motion after that.
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             MR. MATASAR: Great.
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             THE COURT: And what -- in that regard, a
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    question I would like -- you've already addressed it
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    somewhat, certainly it's addressed somewhat in the
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    government's brief, a question I have that could be
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    significant here is whether -- on the testimony of
    Barbara Cabral, whether it has more to do with
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willfulness or as compared to the terrorism enhancement that the government is seeking on sentencing, because that's a question I have. Two separate questions to me. All right. Yes. MR. PAPAGNI: On the materials that Ms. Zusman offered, we intended to give the court everything so that the record -- you review everything in camera to verify Ms. Zusman's records as well as the trial team, that's what you want, right? THE COURT: Yes. And then it will be sealed and made part of the record. All right. MR. WAX: Will there be a log or index of all of the material, Your Honor, in the event that there is a need for appellate review of this? THE COURT: I haven't seen it. MR. WAX: I guess what I'm requesting is that you request that the government provide, so that we can know, you know, if you are getting 26 e-mails or if you are getting no e-mails. Because we do not know from what Ms. Zusman has said whether they are going to provide you with any e-mails. And I think it's --THE COURT: Well, why don't you provide me --I'd like to go ahead and take the materials so I can start work on it. And can I do that and you still give me something, would be also in camera, that would just

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    sort of summarize what I have, documents I have, just so
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    that there can be -- if someone wants to read these
    later on, they can, and make sure they know they're
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    looking at what I'm getting today.
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             MS. ZUSMAN: Your Honor, I think we can prepare
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    an index, but we would need -- I brought the originals
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    with me. If we could have just this afternoon to
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    prepare an index --
             THE COURT: Of course.
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10
             MS. ZUSMAN: -- and then deliver them to you
11
    right away.
             THE COURT: That's fine. No problem. Anything
12
13
    else today?
14
             MR. WAX: Judge, I have to say this, I'm sorry,
15
    and that's this: We had suggested to Ms. Zusman and to
16
    Dwight Holton that the United States Attorney's Office
    for the District of Oregon should not be handling this
17
    matter. And I need to raise that issue with the court.
18
19
    I appreciate that Ms. Zusman is handing up a stack of
20
    material. It seems to me that given the nature of the
21
    issues that the court must resolve, some independent
22
    entity must be involved in taking a look at the totality
23
    of the communications that exist in this matter within
24
    the FBI, the IRS, and the U.S. Attorney's Office, and
2.5
    that that cannot be someone from the U.S. Attorney's
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1
    Office here in the District of Oregon. And to the
2
    extent that I need to put that in the form of a motion
3
    to you to recuse the office, I'm doing so.
             THE COURT: If you wish to, that's fine.
4
5
    not going to act on an oral statement at this time. I'm
6
    going to try to look up the law on things first before
7
    we give them the order.
8
             All right. Anything further? All right.
9
    Thank you. We're in recess.
10
              (The proceedings were concluded at 2:36 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE

I, Deborah Wilhelm, Certified Shorthand Reporter for the State of Oregon, do hereby certify that I was present at and reported in machine shorthand the oral proceedings had in the above-entitled matter. I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript, to the best of my skill and ability, dated this 2nd day of March, 2011.

/s/ Deborah Wilhelm

Deborah Wilhelm, RPR Certified Shorthand Reporter Certificate No. 00-0363